

protein synthesis in said bacterial cell; contacting said bacterial cell with a protease, wherein said contacting is sufficient to prevent said bacterial cell from participating in formation of a biofilm; limiting the concentration of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}/\text{Fe}^{3+}$  in the environment of said bacterial cell, wherein the  $\text{Fe}^{2+}/\text{Fe}^{3+}$  concentration in said environment is limited to 0.3  $\mu\text{M}$  or less; providing a high osmolarity environment to said bacterial cell, wherein said osmolarity of said environment is equivalent to or greater than the osmolarity of a solution containing 0.2 M NaCl or 15% sucrose; adding mannose to the environment of said bacterial cell, such that the mannose concentration in said environment after the addition of said mannose is at least 15 mM; and adding  $\alpha$ -methyl-D-mannoside to the environment of said bacterial cell, such that the  $\alpha$ -methyl-D-mannoside concentration in said environment after the addition of said  $\alpha$ -methyl-D-mannoside is at least 15 mM.

#### REMARKS

Claim 25 was objected to under PCT Rule 66.2(a)(v) as lacking antecedent basis for the phrase "said surface." The above amendment corrects the lack of antecedent basis. Support for this amendment is found, for example, on page 8, line 27 of the application. Applicant has also enclosed a second set of said claims in final format.

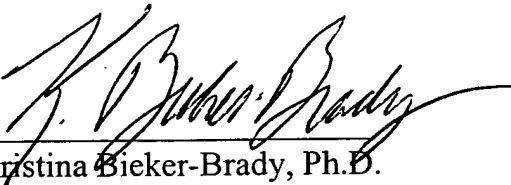
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Respectfully submitted,

Date:

September 19, 2000



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